NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway, opposite Bond street.-LAURA KBENE'S THEATRE, No. 624 Broadway,-

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery -- Afternoon-Page of History-Dick Tuarin and Tom King, Evening-Douglas-Lamplighter-Harcld Hawk.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—Day and Evening—Patriot Heart of Sunter—Buckle of Bril-Liants—Bears, Sna Laon and Other Coriosities.

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broad-NUMBER S SALOOR, Broadway.-Littod's MINSTREES BURLESCHER, SONGE, DANCES, &c.-SILVER TRUMPET.

IRVING HALL, Irving Pince.—Gao CHRISTI'S MIN-

MELODEON CONCERT HALL, No. 539 Broadway.-CANTERBURY MUNIC HALL, 585 Broadway, -Songs, DANGER, BURLESOUSS, &c. STUTYEBART INSTITUTE, 600 Broadway -- MRE. ANNA BISHOP'S DRAWING ROOM CONCESS. Afternoon and Evening

HOPE CHAPEL, 720 Breadway -- Gun. Ton Thumb's Ex-GAIETTES CONCRET ROOM, 616 Broadway. - Drawing Room Entertainments, Ballets, Pantonimes, Farces, &c.

AMERICAN MUSIC HALL, 444 Broadway. - Songs, Bal-Lets, Pantonimes, &c.-The Black Shormaker.

New York, Saturaay, June 1, 1861.

THE SPECATION OF AFFAIRS.

No attack on Alexandria was made yesterday, as was anticipated. General McDowell was on the alert all day, but not a rebel showed himself in that direction

It is confidently stated that General Scott intends to make a most vigorous onward movement as soon as his plans are completed, with a view to occupy Richmond before the 4th of July. 35,000 men will be pushed on into the interior of Virginia towards Blue Ridge: 20,000 under General Patterson will invade Virginia from Eastern Pennsylvania; 20,000 under General Mc-Clelland, from Ohio, will cut their way down to Winchester and Strasburg by the turnpike road from Grafton, avoiding the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; and 15,000 men under General Butler, aided by a naval force, will make their way up the James river. A strong force will be collected in Western Virginia in addition to Colonel Sherman's corps d'armee for the pro-

tection of the Unionists there.

Important news was received between four and five o'clock yesterday, by the Keystone State, which reports having passed the steamers Freeborn and Auscosta, off Aquia Creek, engaging the rebel forts there with apparent effect. Aquia Creek is fifty-five miles from Washington, and is the terminus of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad. This intelligence is in a measure confirmed by the arrival of the Cataline yesterday from Fortress Monroe with despatches for General Scott. Her commander reported having seen the men mounting six guns at the Creek, and the Freeborn and two other steamers were lying off at anchor. The Cataline further reports having seen a number of men throwing up batteries at Ragged Island Point This report came from Captain Dahlgren, who states that the batteries opened fire on the Freeborn, Water Witch, and Anacosta. The vessels replied, and a brisk fire was kept up on both sides for an hour, till the ammunition ran short on board, and the vessels hauled off. Upon receipt of the despatch, two ships of war, with plenty of ammunition, were sent from the Navy Yard. They were expected to arrive off the creek last night at twelve o'clock, and the fire will be reopened on the batteries this morning.

The Sixty-ninth, Eighth and Twelfth New York regiments are likely to have a brush with the rebels to-day, and it is not at all improbable that an attack will be made on Alexandria. The regiments referred to had advanced six miles back from Washington behind the Heights of Arlington and were under orders to push on to Fairfax Court House this morning to drive out a body of fourteen hundred rebels who are in possession there. An advance of four thousand rebels from the direction of Dumfries was expected in Alexandria last night, and the federal troops were preparing to receive them ..

Great activity is preserved at Fortress Monroe. Troops and ammunition are constantly arriving, the garrison now amounting to thirteen thousand men: and large bodies were moving into the in terior, it was thought, with the intention of making for Norfolk by a circuitous route. Up to Thursday evening no less than four hundred and fifty slaves, including women and children, had fled into General Butler's camp, and they report that a general uprising of the slave population was expected.

From Manassas Junction we learn that the earthworks erected there by the rebels command both roads to Richmond and Harper's Ferry, for about four miles, but it was rumored that the secessionists had ceased the work yesterday. There are said to be 12,000 men there.

The retreat of the rebel troops from Williamsport towards Martinsburg is confirmed by the statement of a gentleman just arrived from there. It appears likely that General Johnston is calling in all his outposts to Harper's Ferry,

The trouble is not all over in Baltimore. The mob made a hostile demonstration upon the guard of the Twelfth and Thirteenth regiments (from what State not reported', while protecting the baggage, which had been thrown off the track by the rioters. Cheers were given for Jeff Davis, and three shots were fired at the troops. It is thus evident that the rowdy spirit of Baltimore is not yet subdued.

From St. Louis we learn that the Unionists in Missouri are determined to crush out secession by force. It is also stated that General Harney has been removed from the command of that depart-

ment, and General Lyon appointed in his place. Major General Banks will be appointed to a new military department on the Atlantic; and General Fremont, who was to leave Liverpool on the 18th,

will be appointed to a department in the West if he accepts the commission offered to him.

The News.

We have dates from the city of Mexico to the 7th and Vera Cruz to the 12th ult. Hon. T. Cor. win and the new representatives from England and Belgium had arrived at the capital. In repard to Mr. Corwin, the Trait d'Union, of Vers Cruz, publishes some editorial remarks, wor thy of notice, though probably more indicative of the Southern bias of the editor than the temper of the Mexican government. Mr. Mata, the recently appointed Minister of Finance, had resigned, as was anticipated, and another sterial crisis was expected. Congress had at length formed a quorum, but was doing absolutely nothing. An opinion prevails that Juarez is rapidly losing ground in national favor. Captain Aldham was rapidly recovering from the effects of his wound. A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune writing fram Minatitlan, says that the gold diggings on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are found to be so rich that it is expected to turn out a second California. The Mexican Extraordinary of April 30 says:-"The news from Sonora is again of an alarming character. The Indians have risen and descended in great strength upon the districts inhabited by the whites. They have overpowered the forces of the government sent against them, and committed innumerable atrocities. Governor Vega, of Sinaloa, has already started with a force from Mazatlan to aid the whites of Sonora, who are in such imminent danger of extermination."

The first case of violence in this city, having a fatal result, growing out of the present war excitement and the Southern rebellion, occurred last night, on which occasion, Henry Merritt and John Swain being engaged in a discussion in the house No. 199 Prince street, the latter gave expression to violent secession sentiments, and was instantly shot dead by Merrit. The affair will be found detailed in another column. Merritt is a member of Warren Hose Company No. 33.

Governor Washburne, of Maine, has received orders from Washington to despatch two additional regiments from that State. The first call was for only one regiment; now Maine will have

four.
The Major Generals, with their staffs, of the three military divisions of Maine have been paid off and relieved by the Governor from any turther active service. The cause is not stated. Unwards of twenty thousand men are enrolled

for the war and organized into companies in Massachusetts. Six thousand of the number compose regular reg ments, and such as have not already one into service are now ready.

Eight regiments have been accepted from Philadelphia, and there are yet nearly ten thousand men enrolled and organized into companies in that

city.
An order has been received at Elmira, in this State, to muster into the service of the United States all the regiments there.

The Lafayette Ligh Guard, of Van Buren county, Michigan, are to come to New York and join

General Sickles' brigade. The Wisconsin War bill gives five dollars a month extra pay to married volunteers, but no-

thing extra to single men. The latest news from New Mexico states that Colonel Loring, commander of the Department of New Mexico; Major Crittenden, Lieutenants Rich, Baker and McNeil, of the United States Rifles. have resigned. Colonel Canby will assume command as soon as Colonel Loring leaves.

On the 26th of May a despatch was received in New Orleans that the pirate steamer Calhoun was coming up the river with three more prizes in tow. The steamship Fashion, recently bound from Texas to New Orleans, with a cargo of beeves, sprung aleak on the voyage, and was forced to put back to Indianola for repairs. New Orleans was probably blockaded before she was again ready to leave.

A special despatch to the Mobile Advertiser. dated May 22, states that the United States war teamer Crusader passed Lake City with a large orce on board, supposed to be bound to Apaachicola, Florida, to attack that place and retake he captured schooner Atwater. A foray upon that portion of the Florida coast was expected.

The secessionists of Tennessee are fluttering considerably over the numerous rumors that are affoat to the effect that the forces at Cairo are soon to march upon Memphis.

The Baltimore American, May 31, says:-"There are said to be about seven hundred Marylanders at Harper's Ferry and vicinity under arms, formed into a regiment, and temporarily organized, with Colonel George H. Stewart, Jr., as commander, General Lee was expected to visit Harper's Ferry yesterday, to examine the defences."

All the speeches made at the recent sitting of the Massachusetts Peace Society were of such a belligerent tone that it has been suggested that the members enlist for the war.

Excise Commissioners Haskett and Holmes met vesterday and granted licenses, and adjourned to meet this day at twelve o'clock, in the Common Pleas chamber. The intimation of the Governor that the expenses of thes war call for a rigid en forcement of the Excise law, and that if the present Excise Commissioners do not enforce it he will supply their places with others who will. created quite a sensation.

The government of the United States will continue to afford the usual postal service to the following counties in the State of Virginia:-Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Monongalia Preston, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, Randolph, Upshur, Barbour, Taylor, Harrison, Doddridge Tyler, Pleasants, Ritchie, Lewis, Braxton, Gilmer Wirt, Wood, Jackson, Mason, Putnam, Kanawha. Webster, Clay, Roane, Calhoun, Cabell, Wayne

and Marion. A special meeting of the Board of Councilmen was held last evening for the purpose of taking action upon a report of the Committee on Finance in favor of concurring with the Aldermen to purchase from the State the West Washington market property, and the piers at the foot of Watts and Hubert streets, for the sum of \$300,000. The report was laid over on Thursday for the purpose of giving the Councilmen an opportunity to investigate into the merits of the subject. The Comptroller recommended the purchase of the property; and as the terms of the proposition of the commissioners of the Land Office would have to be accepted before the 1st of June, the Board concurred with the Aldermen in the adoption of the report. Thus ends the "West Washington market controversy," which has caused so much litigation. A number of routine papers were acted upon, after which the Board adjourned till Mon-

lay. We are indebted to Adams & Co.'s express for papers delivered yesterday in advance of the mail. The cotton market yesterday, in the absence of private letters by the America, was without animation, and rices less buoyant. The sales footed up 700 a 800 bales, n lots, closing on the basis of 13%c a 14c for commo to straight middling uplands, with little of the latter to be had at the outside figure. Holders were still hopeful, while the low range of sterling bills, with the foreign news, tended to check operations. The market for flour was less buoyant and active, and sales of most descriptions were moderate, and in part for export. Whe opened with tolerable steadiress, but closed dull and heavy for nearly all grades. Corn opened with a fair demand, at steady prices, but closed heavy and dull. Pork was inactive and closed quite dull; the sales embraced city and Western mess at \$16 75 a \$17 25, closing heavy at \$17 for the latter; prime sold at \$12 25 a \$12 75. Sugars were in 'air demand with sales of 1,300 a 1,400 hhds. and 532 boxes, at prices given in another column. Coffee was steady, with me derate sales. Freights were heavy and engagements

Our Relations with England-The Necessify for Prompt and Decisive Mea-

AUISC. Events between this country and England are becoming graver in importance every day, and it therefore becomes the administration to immediately assume a definite and decided attitude towards the government of her Britarnic Majesty. It has become evident, not only from the proclamation of the Queen, but the various acts and speeches of her ministers, that England has placed herself in a position unfriendly to the United States. This unwise course, so antagonistic to her real interests, may be attributed: firstly, to that almost ineradicable prejudice against republican institutions and the republican form of government which has so long and so conspicuously distinguished her aristocracy and government; and secondly, to her dependence upon the supply of cotton from the Southern States of America, and the mistaken, contradictory and confused ideas which prevail in the British Cabinet as to the most politic measures for insuring a continuance of that supply, notwithstanding the rebellion and the blockade of the Southern ports.

The prevarication, uncertainty and weakness f the Palmerstons and Russells of Great Britain in the present critical state of affairs between the two countries would, in the eyes of justice, simply inspire contempt; but as the policy of these men is capable of exerting a vast influence for weal or for woe, it cannot here be dismissed so summarily. This hesitation, this indecision on their part, arising from their jealousy towards this government, which Sir Henry Bulwer long ago, while Minister at Washington, did not scruple to libel, by calling it in the most contemptuous manner a weak one, and the uncertainty they feel as to the issue of the Southern insurrection, has been greatly increased by the misrepresentations of no less a personage than Lord Lyons. This is a decisive word to use; but this is a time when decisive language, as well as decisive acts, become necessary. The substance of certain portions of Lord Lyons' despatches to Lord John Russell, on the subject of the blockade and the proceedings of the federal government in enforcing the federal laws, has been announced by the latter in the House of Commons; and certainly those despatches appeared to emanate from a source anything but unbiassed—nay, more; for they as unmistakeably expressed Southern sentiments as the speeches of Lord John himself have done.

Moreover, the whole conduct of the Palmerston administration bears out the idea that the British Minister at Washington is largely responsible for the shuffling and insincerity of his government at home. An impression has been conveyed to the Cabinet of St. James that the North will fail in the struggle now going forward for the preservation of the integrity of the Union, and we therefore think that the administration should adopt summary measures towards those who thus misrepresent us by taking the part of the rebels, and that the British Minister at Washington should have his passports sent to him at once, so that he may go home by the next steamer. We cannot permit the diplomats of foreign nations at our seat of government to connive directly or indirectly with the disloyal and piratical, and, for the gratification of their own prejudices, to embroil us in European warfare and inspire the secessionists with false hopes, which could only result in prolonging the war ladgi-nitely, but not in altering the shal result of the

The report of the debate in the House of Lords, brought by the America, shows that the government is disposed to play a double game towards this country till such time as events determine the side it is to take. If the North gains a speedy victory, the British Ministry will incline to its support; but if the South were to gain any considerable battle, their policy would be exactly the reverse. In vulgar parlance, this may be called humbugging, and as such we must treat it. What, for instance, can be more evasive than the reply of the Earl of Granville to the question of Lord Ellenbcrough, respecting the interpretation the government put upon the words "lawful blockade" used in the recent proclamation? His lordship said that lawful blockade must be maintained by a sufficient force, but it was not absolutely necessary to render all ingress or egress impossible; it was enough to render it extremely difficult. If we mistake not, this studied ambiguity of expression was intended to be non-committal, so that the government may be hereafter at liberty either to regard or disregard the blockade, according to expediency and ultimate decision.

It is obvious that whoever misuses his influence by conveying false impressions to a quarter where they are likely to be acted upon places himself in a very culpable position, and one as injurious to himself as to those who are led by his representations. The evil is always great, even in the private relations of every day life, but it becomes a matter of much graver import when the case is one like that in which Lord Lyons and his governmentare concerned at such a critical time as the present and therefore it is that we say, by all means, let us send the British Minister at Washington his passports without delay, and show Great Britain that we are determined not to tolerate her interference in any way, whether diplomatic or active. We have the power to assert and preserve our dignity as well as to put down rebellion, and we will make it known and felt wherever and whenever required of us. Let England remember that we are not to be slighted with impunity, and that the case of the rebellion in the slave States is analogous to that of the rebellion in Ireland. And how would England bave liked our assuming towards the rebels there the position which she is now arrogating to herself towards the revolutionists in the United States, through the instrumentality of her statesmen, diplomats and newspapers? If her object is cotton, she will soon learn that it is not to be gained the quicker by adhering to her present dubious policy.

THE UNITED STATES MAILS SUSPENDED IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES -Let all our readers remember that from and after this day the United States mail service is suspended in all the Confederate revolted States, excepting those portions of Eastern Virginia occupied by United States troops, and the loyal Western section of Virginia, the good people of which have refused to pass into the service of Moloch, and are as steadfast to the Union as the people of New York. The Confederate States have adopted an independent mail system -five and ten cent postages on letters; but, as we understand it, no letter to a party in a Confederate

State, intended to be transferred from the United States to the Confederate mails at the boundary line, will be transmitted through the United States maile.

The Two Forces in the Field. With the most accurate returns at our command, we have been enabled to locate a force of 95,000 government troops in the field at those points which may be deemed actually within the line of operations, destined to act upon the South, either for attack or defence. These points extend from Cairo at the northwest to Fortress Monroe on the southeast and include Southern Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and Western Virginia (the forces at these three points being directed against Harper's Ferry), Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, and the lines now occupied by our troops on the Virginia shores of the Potomac, westward from Alexandria

In addition to these, not less, probably, than a hundred thousand men are organized for the service of the government all over the North and West, in camps, barracks and in the large cities, making a total-force of two hundred thousand actually in the field, and ready to move to any point where their services may be required. Within twenty four hours march of Cairo, the most western end of the line, we are credibly informed, there are not less than 38,000 men in camp at different places-a force quite adequate to render that point perfectly secure from any attack by the seceded States bordering on the Mississippi. In New York and the Eastern States there is no abatement of the military ardor which characterized the earliest days of the war excitement, when the government appealed to the patriotism of the people to defend the national capital, and sustain the flag of the republic, which had been stricken down at Fort Sumter. Any amount of men can be obtained which General Scott may require to carry out his admirable plans for subduing the insurrection-men, too, very fairly drilled and armed, who will be available for active service at a moment's notice. Besides these, there are thousands willing and ready to follow should an emergency arise.

Our accounts of the Southern army opposed to this immense force are necessarily uncer tain, accurate means of information being cut off: but we think that we do not at all under estimate the number when we put it down at 80,000 now stationed at various points in Virginia, and probably half as many more available for service in other parts of the South.

As to the efficiency of the two forces in the field, there can be no doubt, we think, that the advantage lies with the army of the United States government. They are better disciplined, better armed, have more field artillery, and are more accustomed to act in masses than the Southern troops. The Southern men, it is true, are composed of the fighting element, and make excellent guerillas; they are handy with the pistol and the knife, good rifle shots, and yet no better, perhaps, even at this weapon, than many of our Northern men; but then they are not used to operate in large bodies, and are decidedly deficient in the proper use of the bayonet, a most important qualification for infantry in action.

A fair illustration of the difference between Northern and Southern discipline was present. ed in the Mexican war-though the troops of both sections were equally brave-in the case of Colonel Butler's South Carolina regiment, which rushed into battle pellmell, and returned almost decimated, leaving hundreds of their number dead on the field. The New York regiment, in the same action, though as brilliantly engaged, lost very few men, and the South Carolinians pointed to their immense sacrifice of life as an evidence of their valor: whereas it proved but a useless sacrifice; while the New York troops, being better disciplined. did quite as much if not more valuable ser vice with comparatively little loss. Impetuosity and reckless daring are very well sometimes, but disciplined action is better. We know that it is only within a few years that the militia have been organized into regiments at all. Both North and South the State militia was comprised of separate companies merely, and knew little or nothing of battalion drill. New York city set the example in regimental organization, and it is due in a great measure to the visits of the Seventh and a few other well trained New York regiments to other cities that battalions and regiments have now been formed in almost every city throughout the North and West, The spirit of emulation accomplished more in this instance than the rules of the service. The South, however, has been slow in following the example of the North; hence her forces are disjointed and irregular.

The policy of Gen. Scott, in making his pre parations carefully and at leisure, must have a powerful effect on the morale of the two armies, because, while it affords time to fully equip and train his own troops, and make the commissariat as nearly perfect as possible, thus insuring them a fine physical condition, the delay will tend to increase the discontent and impatience of the Southern troops, who are eager for instant action, and are daily becoming demoralized. The original programme of the rebel leaders, it must be remembered, has been wholly disarranged by the conduct of the government. Their expectation undoubtedly was that when the Lincoln administration came into office its military power would be restricted to the force of the regular army at the immediate disposal of the Executive, and that no addition to this force could be made until constitutionally authorized by a special act of Congress. Thus, while violating the constitution and the laws themselves, they hoped to hold the administration strictly to their observance and this was their cardinal error. They intended to make a sudden dash on Washington, and from that point to dictate terms, possibly to issue a pronunciamiento on the South American plan. They no doubt imagined that, according to the French style of revolution, as the possession of Paris means the possession of France, to seize Washington was to hold the United States; but the administration, adopting the American style, "took the responsibility of calling upon the patriotism of the people for volunteers to defend the country; and right nobly have the people responded. To the next Congress it must be left to justify and indemnify Mr. Lincoln for his course; and who can doubt that the justification will be com-

And, now, standing face to face as the two armies are, an immediate battle is imminent. Any hour may bring it forth, and it may be a flerce and bloody one. In this emergency it

engaged columns with immediate reinforcements if necessary. But there is one measure which we conceive most important to be attended to. In the event of a great battle a large amount of surgical aid will be required for our troops. The regiments gone forward, most of them numbering a thousand men or more, have only two surgeons attached to each, a medical force wholly inadequate to the duty demanded in the field and the hospital. The Medical Aid Association should at once organize a body of minute men, selected. if possible, from its most skilful surgeons, ready to hasten to the scene of action the moment the telegraph brings the news of a battle. so that our wounded soldiers may be properly cared for. This is not the least important duty of those left behind, and we hope that our patriotic physicians will not fail to attend to it.

Important Measures to be Brought Before the New Congress.

From intimations that reach us through the newspapers and various other channels there is reason to believe that a number of measures of the highest importance, financial and economical as well as political, will be brought under the consideration of Congress when it reassembles next month. The facts that have transpired in reference to the character of those measures induce a conviction that the approaching meeting of the national Legislature will be one of the most dignified and practical in its results of any that has been held for the last half century. There will be less time wasted in idle discussion, less attention paid to private interests, less lobbying and corruption, and more consideration given to the public business, than have marked any of its former sessions.

The war will of course demand its first attention. It will have to occupy itself at once with the raising of the ways and means for prosecuting it to a prompt and successful conclusion. The wants of our army and navy provided for on a scale commensurate with the vigor that the urgency of the crisis demands, it will be necessary to protect the Executive against the consequences of any departure from constitutional or legal restrictions that he may have been compelled to commit in yielding to the pressure of public opinion for energetic measures against the rebels. Questions have arisen in connection with the suspension of the habeas corpus and the disposal of fugitive slaves which may render it necessary for Congress to pass acts of indemnity covering the legal responsibility of the President and of those acting under his orders. These, the more pressing necessities of legis

lation, provided for, there are others which though not immediate in their urgency, do not the less demand the attention of Congress We are just now passing through a financial and commercial revolution unparalteled in our history, and which will result in the most sweeping and radical changes. When the war terminates we shall enter upon an entirely new order of things, and unless we prepare to adapt ourselves to it, our embarrasements and sufferings will be of long duration. With the banks broken all over the country, our strength exhausted by a costly war, and commercial confidence utterly destroyed, it will require the exercise of the greatest care and forethought to speedily reunite the dissevered links which lately bound together the commercial interests of the North and South. For this new financial and commercial measures of legislation will be required. We cannot otherwise hope to meet the exigencies of a state of things for which our previous experience has not prepared us, and which, in its exceptional conditions, has no parallel. We shall, in fact, be turning over an entirely new leaf in the bistory of remarkable commercial revolutions: and it will not do for us to suddenly emerge from this war to find ourselves compelled to grope our way unintelligently through the fresh difficulties which these changes are about to create for us. By calculating beforehand their extent and probable operation, we can meet them by measures of legislation which will render the transition a comparatively easy and natural one. Among these the most indispensable are-

1.-A National Bank, with \$100,000,000 of capital, so as to give the country a currency at

once uniform and secure. 2.-A general bankrupt law, to control the State banks and to relieve business men from the difficulties brought upon them by causes other than their own indiscretion.

3 .- An equalization of the tariff, which will reduce the duties that are now prohibitory, and raise those which are unfairly low to an equitable standard.

The first of these measures will at once reetore confidence in the currency, and will enable the government to raise whatever further loans it requires by its taking half, say \$50,000,000, of the stock of the new bank. The want of a general bankrupt law has been so long and so seriously felt that it does not require the pressure of the difficulties by which the commercial classes are now overwhelmed to render it acceptable to the country. Au equalization of the tariff will relieve us from the hostility aroused against us abroad by the impolitic bill of last session, and will, at the same time, afford all the protection that our manufacturing interests can justly claim. Congress, it will be seen, has plenty of work cut out for it in the maturing of these measures; but with a disposition to avoid all useless discussion, and to address itself at once to business, it can be got through in three or four weeks. Our financial and commercial systems thus reconstructed in advance, we can look forward to the termination of the war without anxiety for our future. No country will have passed through a crisis so great with consequences so little disastrous.

THE SPEAKER AND CLERK OF THE NEW HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES .- In about one month the new Congress meets at Washington, in extraordinary session. For this Congress President Lincoln is already preparing his message, and the business and organization of the House are in course of arrangement. Under the circumstances which attend this special session, the Speaker and Clerk of the House should, with propriety, be selected from the Eastern and Western States; and if this arrangement be made, we suggest for Speaker the Hon. Frank P. Blair, of Missouri, and for Clerk the Hon. John B. Haskin, of New York,

The Hon. Wm. A. Pennington, of New Jersey, the Speaker of the last House, was a most genial and amiable gentleman, but was hardly au fait in the duties of the Speakership. and was obliged to depend very much behooves us to be in readiness to support the upon the knowledge and experience of

Figure, one of the pages of the House. Mr. Pennington is not a member of the new Cougress, having been defeated in the last election by a very respectable tailor in his district, who is now doubtless engaged in making uniforms for the army. Chevalier Forney, we understand, has had a surfeit of the good things of the Clerkship, and intends retiring, with all the honors, to devote himself entirely to his paper, or, as rumor states, to take a military com mand, the his friend Brigadier General Sickles. It is hardly necessary for us to say how cordially we endorse this resolution, and wish the Chevalier more success in his new station than he has before achieved. Neither the Speaker nor Clerk of the last House is therefore eligible for re-election, and the offices are open for new nominations.

We suggest Messrs. Blair and Haskin for Speaker and Clerk, because we think they are in every way fitted for the stations, and that they will be generally acceptable. In his career in Congress, and in his connection with recent affairs in Missouri, Mr. Blair has displayed just those qualities which will be required, in this crisis, of the new Speaker. He has, we think, energy, sagacity, a thorough knowledge of his duties, and great efficiency in their performance. Mr. Haskin has been in Congress for the last two years, and has displayed uncommon energy, business capacity and practical talent. He has every quality requisite to fill the Clerkship most worthily.

Severe Illness of senator Douglas.

CHICAGO, May 31-9:30 P. M. Senator Déuglas is still gradually sinking. His physiclans entertain no hopes of his recovery.

Arrival of the America at Boston Boston, May 31, 1861.

The steamship America, from Liverpool via Halifax, arrived at nine this evening. News anticipated via Halifax. The foreign mails go forward by the morning train, due in New York at 5 P. M.

Arrival of the North Briton off Cape Race.

Fr. Jones, N. F., May 31, 1861. The steamship North Briton, from Liverpool May 18, via Londonderry 19th, passed Cape R-ce at one o'clock P. M., yesterday, bound to Quebec. Her advices were obtained by the news yacht, but are anticipated by

those by the America, at Halifax. Appointments by the Postdont

WASHINGTON, May 31, 1861. General James Watson Webb, of New York, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipoter

The following named paymasters in the navy have just been appointed:—Augustus H. Gillman, of Maine; H. H. Pangborn, Wassachusetts, Cramer Burt, Minnesota: Wash-ington Irving, New York; Joseph B Oliphant, New Jersey, R. C. Spaulding, Ohio; Cuthbert P. Wallach, District of

Columbia.

The following named Lieutenants have been appointed in the Marine Corps:—W. H. Hill, New Hampshire, R. E. Hitchcock, Vermont; Robert W. Huntington, Connecticut; Frank Meuroe, District of Columbia, John H. Grimes, Iowa; John A. Berroughs, Minessots; W. H. Parker, Wiscusin; John Pope Baker, Illinois. Whecasin; John Pope Baker, Illinous.
There are all the appointments, leaving no vacancies; nor are there any vacancies for chapiain.
The President has appointed the following Massachutetts Postmasters:—Lewis Merriam, Greenfield, Edward Regers, North Adams; By. Chickering, Pittsheid. Also, Henry H. Starkweather, at Norwich, Conn.
Hon David Taggari, formerly opeaker of the Pennsylvabia Senate, and late candidate for Governor of that State, was to-day appointed Paymaster in the army.

Fire in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The fine new steam flouring mill of J. J. Companet to
the this morning, and was partially consumed. Le
about \$10,000; mostly insured.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

Stocks firm. Pennsylvania State 5 s. 70%; Reading Railroad, 19%; Morris Cana., 39. Long island Railroad, 26%. sight exchange on New York unchanged.

New Onlyans, May 21, 1861.

New York unchanged.

New Onlyans, May 31, 1861.

Cotton irregular: sales to day 1, 100 bales; quotations nominal Sales of the week, 2 500 bales; receipts, 1,264; sgainst 3,460 serme time last year Exports, 2 600 bales; total do .1 889 000; docreased receipts, 251,400; do at all 10712, 860,400 bales; stock, 21 000 biles Whiskey 40c. a 42c. Coffee 18c. a 18c.; week's sale, 3,400 bags; injects, 8,600; stock, 7,500; against 25,000 same time last year.

year.

Sales of cottoe, 1.500 bales middlugs at 115c a 115c.
Sales of the week, 14 000 bales. Receipts—2,600, against 5.500 last year. Decreased receipts, 238,000 bales; at all he ports, 8,039 000 Exports, 150,000 Stock, 35,000 bales. Freight on cotton to Liverpool, 16.

Flour dull. No sales of wheat. Corn—none here. State outs 23c. Whiskey 165c. Received by Central Rairroad for Boston and East, 2,101 bbls flour. For New York—3,918 bbls. flour, 126 bbls. whiskey, 59 bbls. beef, 210 bbls. perk.

Flour unchanged: \$5 25 for favoy. Wheat dult sales 0,000 bushels No. 1 Milwaukee club, \$1 05 Corn firm: 20,000 bushels No 1 Milwaukee club, \$1 05 Corn firm, saies 70,000 bushels Induan at 52 50 Oats and barley quiet Cand freights out;—Fibur 35c., wheat Sc. and corn 7c. to New York. Lake imports—10,400 bushels wheat, 2,400 bushels corn Canal exports—3,100 bushels flour, 18,600 bushels wheat, 3,700 bushels corn and 2,100 bushels barley.

Burrais, May 31—1 P. M.
Flour steady and unchanged. Wheat dult sales 5 000 tunhels Milwaukee cash at 950. Corn duil and heavy; sales 5 000 bushes at 340. Oats steady and in fair 64 mand; sales 20 000 bushels at 24c.; market cleaned out. Catal freights unchange. Lake importe—5 000 bush. flour, 9 000 bushels wheat. Exports—5 000 bushels flour, 9 000 bushels wheat. Exports—6 000 obts. flour, 120,000 bushels wheat, 46,000 bushels corn, 30,000 bushels oats.

Flour dull and drosping. Wheat in limited request and declined ic.: sales at 79c in store, payable in gaid. Cora dull and inactive at 23c, a 24c. Osts steady. Receipty—500 bbls. flour, 67 000 bushels wheat, 148 000 bushels corn. Shipments—6,000 bbls. flour, 82 000 bushels wheat, 73,000 bushels corn. Exchange on New York unchanged.

Cincinnari, May 31, 1861.

Flour firmer; fair demand at \$4 45 for superfice.
Whiskey dull at 12c. More inquiry for provisions, but not much doing. Exchange strady at 1/4 a 3/4; gold dull at 3/4c.

MADAME ASNA BERROP gives a grand matines at Stuyvosant Institute this afternoon. Miss Kate Comstock, who has been ill for several days, it is announced, will be able to sing again on the occasion. Madame de Villers, a French planist, will also make her first appearance here

The Hotchkiss Cannon and Projectiles. The second trial of the Hotchkiss rifled cannon and patent projectics, took place pesterday on the flats near East New York, in the presence of a large number of spectators. There were on the ground two guns, one a brass field piece six-pounder, rifled. From this twentysix shots were made, twelve cunces of pawder to the charge, the shot weighing fourteen and a half pounds. and the gun 854 pounds. The mean distance from th centre of the target to the perforations was forty-nine inches One shot went far over the target, from an accidental loading with a double charge of powder. Eleva tion (to target 1,000 yards) three degrees. tion (to target 1,000 yaros) three degrees. The smaligem, a Dahigreen, rifled, 2 6 10 inch bere, threw twenty-one shot, with six nunces of powder to five and three-fourth pumes of ball, with a mean divergence from the centro of the target of four-six inches. From a meanderstanding of a new telegraph, four of the shots from the last gun went over. Sevation two and three-fourths degrees, Distance 1,000 yards. Four concussion shells were fired from the large gun, with unsatisfactory results, from the batter of the grands, which was a welmaish. Four shells, with Borman's time fuse, were the degree of the state of the same fixed, bursting respectively in one, two, three and feur seconds. These shells, when perioded, will be a most terrific projectile, as at their explosion they give an other terrific projectile, as at their explosion they give shelt has greater weight than the latter. They can be projected with great precision to a long distance, and their execution from scattering so great a number of lead sings in the ranks would be terrific. The shelfs reached the target from the small gun in three seconds, with an initial velocity of 1000 feet per second. A shot fired from the small gun, with thirty degree set without and seven on cases of powder, was thirty decones in flight, and probable reached a distance of four miles and four-fiths. A shot need from the isage gun, with the sams shotarion, could not be seen to strick, but probably west farther than the distance of the ball fired from the samel gun. The resoit of the large gun was the feet of the small gun, only three feet. The firing concluded at nightful, when the spectators separated, much piezed with the result of the trial. a Dahlgreen, rifled, 2 6-10 lich bore, threw twenty-one

Court of Oyer and Terminer.

Before Hon. Judge Allen. CHARGE OF MURDER. May 31 -The People vs. John Jackson -The prisoner ves indicated, conjointly with Robinson, for the marder of to dwin, on the night of the Sixt of January has, in a-mable house in Walts expect. Robinson was tried a few days ago for the same bunded, and was convinced of manusary his in the third degree. The case in still on.